

TOP SECRET//COMINT//TALENT KEYHOLE//REL TO USA, AU'S, GBR



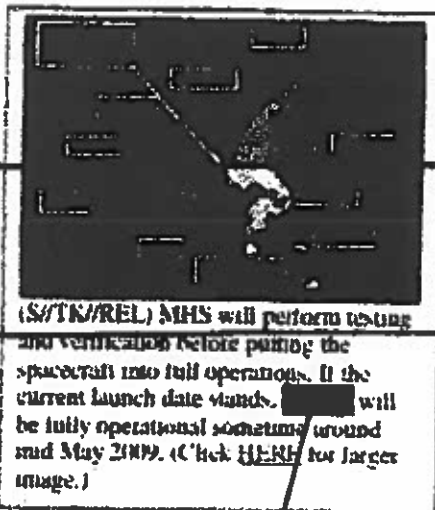
January 2009

**(S//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Two New Collection Assets to Greatly Expand MHS Target Coverage**

By: (U//FOUO) [REDACTED] Menwith Hill Station (F77)

**(7606)** (TS//SI//TK//REL) Menwith Hill Station will accept two new satellites in 2009 – an ORION spacecraft [REDACTED] and a NEMESIS spacecraft [REDACTED]. The arrival of these new vehicles will give MHS greater flexibility in missions, surveys, and signals development efforts and provide opportunities for collection, discovery, and sharing. [REDACTED] will also provide the Intelligence Community with an opportunity to use Overhead in a non-traditional way for a FORNSAT SIGDEV mission. (S//SI//REL) [REDACTED] (7606)

**(S//TK//REL)** [REDACTED] **7606**  
(TS//SI//TK//REL) [REDACTED] currently has a launch date of 13 January 2009. After launch, Alice Springs Mission Ground Station will control [REDACTED] as it deploys and drifts westward, with MHS gaining control 50 days later. **7606**



(TS//SI//TK//REL) [REDACTED] **7606**  
[REDACTED]'s initial mission is a survey of the People's Republic of China (PRC) line-of-sight microwave towers and emitters. [REDACTED] **7606**  
will survey the area drifting from [REDACTED] east for approximately 30-45 days. At [REDACTED] east, [REDACTED] will pick up its new primary mission from [REDACTED] **7606**  
Thurava collection and Afghanistan/Pakistan exfiltration. **Mission**

(TS//SI//TK//REL) After spacecraft [REDACTED] transfers the Thurava mission to [REDACTED] **7606**  
[REDACTED] will drift 0.1 degree a day west, continuing the PRC survey for approximately 200 more days. After completion of the PRC survey, [REDACTED] will take on a new mission targeting Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, greatly expanding MHS's target and coverage area. **7606**

**(S//TK//REL)** MHS will perform testing and verification before putting the spacecraft into full operations. If the current launch date stands, [REDACTED] will be fully operational sometime around mid May 2009. (Click HERE for larger image.) **7606**

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(S//TK//REL) [REDACTED]

(TS//SI//TK//REL) Currently, [REDACTED] has a launch date of 11 April 2009. [REDACTED]'s mission will be Foreign Satellite (FORSAT) collection from space - targeting

commercial satellite uplinks not normally accessible via conventional means. [REDACTED] will provide the Office of FORNSAT a "site in the sky" when denied a site on the ground for collection. Ground processing equipment is being put in place at MHS that can cover both drift/dwell and sustained collection.

(S//TK//REL) MHS expects to have full operations on [REDACTED] 85 days after launch. (Click [HERE](#) for larger image.)

(TS//SI//TK//REL) The arrival of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at MHS will open up new opportunities for discovery and will enhance collection efforts for the intelligence community into areas not previously explored.

(U//FOUO) POC: [REDACTED]

(U//FOUO) *SIDrosky* Editor's note: This article is reposted from MHS's Horizon newsletter, November 2008 edition.

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